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## CHAMBER HEARS INTERESTING REPORT CONCERNING MAUI

### Harbors and Shipping Committee Makes Recommendations Regarding the Proposed New Wharf for Kahului.

Of the greatest interest to shippers and shipowners is the report of the Committee on Harbors and Shipping of the Chamber of Commerce, read yesterday afternoon at a special meeting of the trustees of the Chamber. The report contains some interesting data in regard to shipping from the ports of Maui, and represents some hard work on the part of the committeemen who drew it up.

The report was read by E. E. Paxton, chairman of the committee. At the conclusion of the reading, Mr. Paxton submitted the following resolution, which was adopted by unanimous consent:

"Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Harbors, Shipping and Transportation, relative to the improvements of Kahului harbor, as submitted at this meeting, be, and the same is hereby, accepted and approved by this Chamber; and, be it further

"Resolved, That the Hon. J. Kalaniana'ole, Delegate to Congress from the Territory of Hawaii, be furnished with a sufficient number of printed copies of said report and that he be requested to use his best efforts to secure an appropriation at the coming session of Congress for an adequate amount to make the improvements at Kahului as outlined in said report, subject to the recommendations of the local United States engineer in charge."

In the absence of the president and vice president, E. Faxon Bishop was elected chairman. On motion, Mr. Bishop appointed a committee of two to draw up a set of resolutions expressing the sorrow which the chamber feels over the death of Charles M. Cooke. The report of the Committee on Harbors and Shipping follows:

#### Committee's Report.

Honolulu, T. H., August 31st, 1909.

To the President and Board of Trustees  
 of the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce.

GENTLEMEN:—The survey of Kahului Harbor on the Island of Maui is now being made by the War Department as authorized by the last Rivers and Harbors Act of Congress. This work will be completed in the near future, and if the project meets with the approval of the Department it will be in line for the consideration of Congress at the coming session.

In view of the great need of additional harbor facilities at Kahului we beg to submit the following facts showing the present and prospective commerce of that port:

#### I. ISLAND OF MAUI.

The Island of Maui is next to the largest of the Hawaiian group, containing 728 square miles, and its nearest approach is 90 miles distant from Honolulu on the Island of Oahu. The Island of Maui is located in the middle of the group and its ports of call are visited by nearly all of the Inter-Island vessels.

POPULATION.—The population according to the last census was 24,797, or 16 per cent. of the total of the Hawaiian Islands. As nine years have elapsed since the last census was taken, the population now is probably 30,000. Nearly the whole of the population is engaged in the production of sugar, pineapples, rice, taro and small farm products.

PROPERTY VALUATION.—The total assessed value of property on the County of Maui (including the unimportant Islands of Molokai, Kahoolawe and Lanai), in 1908 was \$22,303,859.00, or nearly 17% of the total taxable values of the Territory of Hawaii.

ARABLE LANDS.—Of a total area of 466,000 acres, it is estimated that 150,000 acres are arable, of which about 70,000 are under cultivation. Over 100,000 acres of mountain land has been set apart as forest reservations for the conservation of the water supplies for the arable lands on the lower levels.

The greater portion of the arable lands on the lower levels are now devoted to sugar cane cultivation. Lying above the sugar plantations, however, on the slopes of Haleakala, are thousands of acres of good agricultural land especially adapted to pineapples, grapes and other small fruits. At the present time these lands are mostly used for ranch purposes. These unused lands are controlled partly by the Territory and partly by the sugar plantation corporations. These corporations have adopted a liberal policy of opening up considerable areas for settlement on the same terms as offered by the Government.

VALUE OF PRODUCTS.—The total value of agricultural products (Continued on Page Ten.)

## LINGUISTIC MIX-UP BEFORE UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER

There was a racial mix-up and a jumble of languages in the court of United States Commissioner Spencer yesterday, that was a first-class imitation of a combination of the Tower of Babel affair and a congress of nations combined. The languages used had to be filtered through three interpreters, for it seemed that nobody could understand anybody else.

To add to the interest of the occasion, there was present at one of the principals in the case at issue, a little Japanese woman from the Okinawa or Riukiu islands, who had had her marriage certificate tattooed on her knuckles and who was clothed in full Chinese costume, with her hair done up in Chinese style, and with Chinese bracelets on her wrists. Her partner in trouble was a Chinese with a tousled mop of hair, while the complaining witness was the woman's husband, a native of the group of islands from which she comes. His conversation sounded like a cross between a dog fight and an automobile on the verge of going dead.

There is nobody in town who can talk both English and the lingo of the Riukiu islands, so it was necessary to use double interpretation to get at the facts of the case. United States Dis-

trict Attorney Breckons and Commissioner Spencer propounded their questions in English to George Yamada, the Japanese interpreter. Yamada passed them on in Japanese to Genjo Taira, who can talk both Japanese and Okinawa but not English. Genjo Taira in his turn translated into the language of the Okinawa islands. Then the replies of the woman and of her husband, Kobashicha, had to filter back through the same channels. On top of all this, it was necessary to have a Chinese interpreter for Ah Sin or Chin Fat, the man in the case.

The story as finally collected differs not so greatly from others that are told in Mr. Breckons' office, but it has a few features that are peculiar. It seems that the woman, Ushi Kobashicha, married Kobashicha in the Okinawa or Riukiu islands in 1907, and the pair then came to Honolulu. The following May, however, the woman deserted her husband and took up with a Chinese named Ah Sin or Chin Fat—his real name is still unknown. Chin Fat, or Ah Sin, or whatever his name really is, supported the woman in Honolulu, giving her, he claims, a separate establishment until they got the Reverend H. H. Parker to marry them.

The woman, as stated above, had her marriage certificate tattooed on her knuckles, according to the peculiar custom of the Okinawa islands. That made things somewhat difficult, but she solved the problem by burning the marks out with acid—which probably,

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according to her lights, constituted divorce. Then she dressed herself in Chinese bridal costume, did her hair up on the back of her head with brass ornaments, adopted the name of U Sang, and under that name married Ah Sin or Chin Fat.

Up to last Saturday, the real husband was unable to find her, but he finally located the pair at Waipahu. Sunday he went there again with some of his friends and made a demand upon the Chinese to give him back his wife. But the Pake fired him out of the house, claiming the woman as his own wife. So Kobashicha told his troubles to the Federal authorities, with the result that Deputy Marshal Ray Irwin went to Waipahu and arrested the Chinese and his supposed wife and lodged them in jail. But he did not succeed in doing it without some trouble, for the woman showed fight, making a desperate attempt to whip all of Kobashicha's friends and the Deputy Marshal as well, while the Chinese also tried to pummel the officer. It took the display of the Deputy Marshal's gun before he was allowed to get away from Waipahu with his prisoners.

The prisoners were not represented by counsel before the Commissioner yesterday morning, but the taking of testimony was not finished and the case went over until 2 o'clock. When they came in again, they were represented by A. S. Humphreys, who on behalf of his clients waived examination. Commissioner Spencer fixed their bonds at \$1000 each, which was put up by Y. Ahnin and another Chinese financier.



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